WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A signal output circuit for controlling output of an input signal, comprising:

an internal circuit;

a digital delay circuit delaying by digital

10 processing a control signal for controlling an operation

of the internal circuit; and

a switch muting the input signal in accordance with an output of the digital delay circuit.

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The signal output circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control signal is a shutdown signal
 shutting down the internal circuit.

3. The signal output circuit as claimed in claim 2, wherein a period of time for which the control signal is delayed by the digital delay circuit is set so that the muting of the input signal is canceled after the internal circuit is activated based on the control signal.

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4. The signal output circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the digital delay circuit comprises a logic timer.